

## **MES & MMS Student Offerings**

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## PURPOSE OF STUDY

The purpose of the study was to understand current MES & MMS student offerings and explore additional innovative “encore” opportunities that our students should be exposed to, to enhance their learning and prepare them for the future.

## METHODOLOGY & RESEARCH

Primarily there was a meeting with administration to understand their vision for the study as well as to get a picture of the current offerings/encores at Madeira Elementary School and Madeira Middle School. (Appendix I) Encore classes are those that support, and/or are an extension of the traditional core classes. While math, language arts, science and social studies are core classes, encore classes may include music, art, PE, library, STEM, etc. Twenty-three schools were contacted by email, phone or personal interview to ask the following questions:

- 1) **What elementary school offerings exist in your district?**
- 2) **What middle school offerings exist in your district?**
- 3) **Have you tried other offerings? What did or did not work? Why?**
- 4) **What offerings would you *like* to see, and what obstacles are there to implementing those offerings?**

Data was collected from elementary and middle schools across the eastern half of the country. Schools with similar size, socioeconomic status, one to one technology, private schools and schools within the greater Cincinnati area were contacted. (Appendix II) After data collection, there was a follow-up meeting with administration, and it was determined that the data was sufficient for the purpose of the study.

## FINDINGS

- 1) **When able, elementary schools and middle schools are offering, or attempting to offer, foreign language and STEM courses.**

Of course, surveying a large number of districts elicited a large variety of responses, but it is clear districts are focusing on adding foreign language courses and STEM-focused courses in elementary school and middle school. What was clear, however, is that each district had a strong desire to add new, non-traditional curriculum if able. Everyone is at least trying to do this.

With respect to STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) curriculum, administrators cited studies and employment trends, believing and understanding that adding STEM curriculum, even at a younger age, would be critical to job awareness and training years down the road.

Administrators also cited research indicating that elementary school children are the most receptive foreign language learners. Therefore, teaching foreign language at an early age strongly increases fluency chances, and becoming bilingual or multilingual will be more common in the 21st century.

**2) Schools also offer a huge and creative variety of non-traditional options.**

Perhaps obviously, schools have not solely focused on offering STEM and foreign languages as non-traditional options at the younger grade levels. As indicated by the research, a variety of offerings are made, such as drawing, orchestra, study skills, and even personal finance.

**3) A variety of approaches “work” in providing non-traditional offerings.**

Different districts are providing “encore” offerings in very different ways. The problem, of course, is becoming creative in determining scheduling. Examples included:

- importing teachers from the Great Oaks program to provide a targeted offering,
- integrating offerings into existing classes (for example, “robotics week” in 7th grade math)
- the Mariemont Junior High model -- devoting one hour to an elective based upon the teachers’ non-traditional teaching “passion”
- the “end of the year” model -- using post-testing time to offer a wide variety of classes lasting the last few weeks/month of the year
- making a choice between, say, STEM courses and music, art, physical education

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

We recommend that the Board:

- 1) Strongly consider making non-traditional offerings at the middle school and elementary school levels, either through a revised curriculum or an emphasis on certain additional offerings by tweaking existing coursework.
- 2) Explore unique scheduling options to accommodate these new offerings, particularly considering the “Mariemont Model.” (Appendix III)
- 3) Make STEM and/or foreign language priorities.
- 4) Implement a system wide, horizontally and vertically integrated approach. For example, do not offer Mandarin in elementary school if it is not offered in high school.

## ***APPENDIX I:***

### Current MES Offerings:

Within the core class rotation– Art, Music, PE, Computers and Library

Schedules – How much does each grade get right now? Minutes per week:

Music: K – 30    1 & 2 – 60    3 & 4 – 40

PE: K – 30    1 & 2 – 60    3 & 4 – 40

Art: K – 30    1, 2, 3, 4 – 40

Computers: K, 1, 2 – 30    3 & 4 – 40

Library: K, 1, 2 – 30    3 & 4 – 40

Other: Language is provided as an ancillary before school activity that is paid for by families.

### Current MMS Offerings:

Per meeting with administration:

current classes offered within the core class rotation– Choir, Band, Art, Music

PE / Health / Wellness are a little different. The PE rotation was brought up in extensive detail as students have the potential of two PE classes daily, depending on the scheduling rotation.

Staffing was discussed as well. Encores are 45 minutes for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. 8<sup>th</sup> grade gets 60 min.

#### A. 7th Grade

- Communications
- Creative Writing
- Fitness
- Music - band, choir, music media
  - all 7th graders are required to take 1 music class
  - band & choir are year long commitments

#### B. 8th Grade

- Art
- Computer Coding
- History of Sports
- MMS News Team
- Music - band, choir, jazz band
- Personal Fitness
  - all 8th graders required to take at least 1 Fine Art (art, band, jazz band choir, news team)
  - band and choir are year long commitments

## **APPENDIX II:**

### ***Information Gathering from Other Schools***

*As a committee, we reached out to 23 schools to research what they do and how they approach the encore offerings.*

#### **I. Amherst Schools, Amherst New Hampshire**

##### **Guidance Counselors**

##### **A. Elementary**

- Art
  - Computer - alternate weeks
  - Guidance - alternate weeks (stranger danger, internet safety, whole body listening, dealing with conflict, etc.)
  - Library
  - Music
  - PE
- 45 minute classes
- Would like computer and guidance weekly and to add world language at the elementary level

##### **B. Middle**

- Art
  - Computer
  - Family & Consumer Sciences - life skills, home economics
  - Health
  - Innovation & Design - STEM
  - Music - band, chorus, general music
  - World Language - French & Spanish
- Use computers more

#### **II. Anderson Schools, Anderson, OH**

**Chris Flanagan - Principal at Ayers Elementary**

##### **A. Elementary**

- Curious Science
- Destination Imagination
- Drawing
- Girls on the Run
- Music
- Robotics

B. Middle

- Over 100 clubs

III. **Boone County Schools**, Kentucky

Guidance Counselors

A. Elementary

- Art
- Library
- Music
- PE
- technology
- world language

- Plan to begin Spanish
- Would like to include more world language choices
- Did have drama; it is now incorporated with other art & humanities classes

B. Connor Middle School

- Art
- Band (year long)
- Careers
- Chorus (year long)
- Health
- Math Enrichment
- Music Appreciation
- Orchestra (year long)
- Reading Enrichment
- PE
- Science Enrichment
- Technology

- 6 week rotation
- Vary from year to year
- Would like to include robotics, computer programming

IV. **Cannon School** Concord, NC  
private school

- Buck Band
- Creative Writing
- Dance
- Fun with Yarn

- Interior Design
- Modern Ensembles (jazz trio, 4 piece rock band, etc.)
- Musical Theater
- Photography
- Public Speaking
- Tech Art Fusion
- Theater from Scratch
- What's On Your Ipad (music)

V. **Cincinnati Country Day**, Indian Hill, OH  
private school

A. Elementary

- Library
  - Music- instrumental, voice
  - Outdoor Education- reconnect w nature and learn about world around them
  - PE - swimming, movement
  - World Language - Spanish & French
- Each class has computers

B. Middle

- Art - Cyber Art, Photography, Fiber Art
  - Computer Design
  - Health
  - Music - band, choir
  - Outdoor Education- field biology
  - PE
  - Poetry
  - World Language
- One to One computers
- STEM - offered as elective in after school format

VI. **Community School of Davidson**, Davidson, North Carolina

A. Elementary

- Art
- Music
- PE
- Spanish

B. Middle

- Art
- Expose Activities: change every 6 weeks; parent or student led



- Dance/Hip Hop
- Design Thinking - utilizes graphics, art & architecture
- Gardening
- Outdoor Play
- Music - band, choir, guitar
- PE
- 8th Grade only
  - ASL
  - Ceramics
  - Dance
  - Digital Media
  - Drama
  - Music Production
  - Photography
  - Video Production
  - Visual Arts
- Upper school students can take online courses of choices; ie. EMT Training
- Electives are mainly parent led - always something new
- An obstacle is a popular class may not be offered regularly

VII. **Highland Middle School**, Fort Thomas, KY  
guidance counselor

- Art
- Drama
- Digital Design
- Digital Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- Health
- Journalism
- Media
- Music - band, chorus
- PE
- Public Speaking
- Robotics
- Stem
- World Language

- Utilize one to one technology

VIII. **Kettering Schools**, Kettering Ohio

Guidance Counselor

A. Elementary

- Art
- Library
- Music
- PE

- Tablets or laptops for every student
- Would like to include keyboarding & computer
- Did have technology for 1st graders but no longer staff available to teach it

B. Middle

- Art (6th & 8th)
- Computer
- Health (not 8th)
- Music - band, chorus, orchestra
- PE
- STEM (not 6th)
- Technology

- Four to each grade level
- 3D printer - to design & print

IV. **Mason Schools**, Mason, OH

A. Elementary

- Art
- Music
- PE
- STEM Lab

B. Middle

a. 6th Grade

- Art
- Global Technology
- Music - Band, Chorus, Orchestra
- PE
- Spanish

b. 7th Grade

- Engineering Design
- Explorations in Historical Research
- Global Technology

- Interactive Language Arts
- Interactive Math
- Music - Band, Chorus, Orchestra
- PE
- Problem Solving Using Mathematical Practices
- Research Period
- Spanish I
- Study Skills
- The Dream Class: Speak Up, Write Now (language arts)
- Visual Arts

c. 8th Grade

- Art
- Health Education
- Interactive Language Arts
- Interactive Math
- Music - band, chorus, orchestra
- PE
- Problem Solving Using Mathematical Practices
- Project Citizen
- Technology application
- The Dream Class: Speak Up, Write Now

- Would like more technology in all grades

X. **Middletown Schools**

Sam Ison, Superintendent

A. Elementary

- Art
- Math Technology
- Music
- PE
- Reading Technology

B. Middle

- Music - band, chorus, orchestra
- STEM
- Technology

- Would like more technology, work ethics, study skills and careers

- XI. **Oak Hills School**, Cincinnati OH  
Todd Yohey, Superintendent

Middle School

- 6th, 7th & 8th
  - Large spectrum of offerings
  
- 8th Grade
  - Business Courses
  - International Studies
  - STEM

- XII. **Sycamore Schools**, Blue Ash, OH  
Interview Anne Vankirk, Symmes Elementary Principal and Karen Naber, Assistant Superintendent

A. Elementary

- Art
  - Media Center
  - Music
  - PE
- one 30-minute special daily
  - foreign language as early as possible
  - Kindergarteners receive 30 minutes per day
  - 1st through 4th receive 70 minutes per week of PE, music, art and 35 minutes of media

B. Middle

- Art - 45 minute per week; advanced art for selected students
  - Computer - 45 minute per week
  - Music - 2 45-minute per week - band, chorus, band & orchestra
  - PE - 2 45-minutes per week
- 10 open blocks per week for specials
  - Academic intervention
  - Would like foreign language; longer specials per day; typing in elementary; fine arts
  - Did have computer lab - now embedded in classes through project based learning

- Time is obstacle

- ◆ Emphasizes STEM classes for Middle & Junior High schools
- ◆ 7th & 8th grade - specific offerings such as 21st Century Computer Application
- ◆ Research industries which are expected most growth in the next 10 years
- ◆ Want to prepare students for good start towards those future fields

XIII **Woodlawn School**, Mooresville, NC  
private school

A. Elementary

- Art
- Music
- Spanish - starts in Kindergarten

B. Middle

- Art & Design
- Community Hour - tackle life skills
- Farming
- Gardening
- Life Skills - sewing, knitting
- Music - band, choir, composing, history, theory
- Performing Arts
- Personal Wellness - yoga & meditation, sport nutrition
- Robotics
- School magazine
- Spanish
- Wilderness Survival
- Wood Arts
- Yearbook

**APPENDIX III:**

**MARIEMONT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
2015-2016 EXPEDITIONS GUIDE**



**Expeditions will provide students with exciting, innovative learning opportunities each Friday during the school year. Students will choose from seven expeditions, each meeting once a week for two hours and lasting four weeks. All expeditions are hands on, ungraded and focused on lighting a spark of student interest.**

**All of the expeditions offered during the 2015-16 school year are listed in this guide. Each of the three Expeditions categories - Wellness, Arts, Learning Beyond - focuses on four areas of learning:**

Wellness Expeditions  
Physical, Mental, Social, Community,

Arts Expeditions  
Music, Art, Expression, Performance,

Learning Beyond Expeditions  
Technology, College, Career, Content,

**Each year, all students will participate in:**

- Two Wellness expeditions**
- Two Arts expeditions**
- Two Learning Beyond expeditions**
- One additional expedition of their choice in any category**

Wellness Expeditions				
Physical.	Mental.	Social.	Community.	
<b>Chopped Cooking Challenge</b>				
You will be challenged to become a 'Chopped Chef.' You will have to learn to cook with a random combination of healthy yet delicious ingredients. You will show off your skills at the end of the expedition to a panel of food taste testers. You will be judged on taste, creativity and presentation.				
<i>*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition</i>				
<b>Outdoor Survival Skills</b>				
Have you ever thought about how you would survive if you were cut off from civilization? Would you panic, or would you know what to do? In the Outdoor Survival Skills Expedition, you will learn how to build a fire, construct a shelter, purify water and fish for your dinner. The knowledge learned during this expedition may save your life one day!				
<b>Intro to Flex</b>				
Got flexibility and strength? In this expedition, students will sample each of four different types of flexibility and strength exercise: yoga, barre, Pilates and Pilates mat. Any level of experience with any or all is welcome!				
<b>Intro to Racket Sports</b>				
In this expedition, students will be introduced to, learn about, and play four racket sports: tennis, paddle tennis, racquetball, and squash. Any level of experience with any or all of the racket sports is welcome!				
<b>Intro to Cardio</b>				
In this expedition, students will sample four different types of cardio exercise: body pump, spinning, Zumba and kickboxing. Any level of experience with any or all is welcome!				
<b>Dancin' Machine</b>				
Come with us as we discover the many different styles of dance! We will work up a sweat learning everything from hip-hop, jazz, tap, ballet and even salsa. Feel the rhythm and get your feet moving. No experience needed.				
<i>*Also offered as an Arts expedition</i>				
<b>Can You Have Your Cake and Eat It Too?</b>				
Have you ever wondered exactly where that food goes after you eat it? What happens to the proteins, carbohydrates and fats we consume? In this expedition, we look at how our food choices affect our bodies and how our bodies use the food molecules we eat. We will make trips to four local restaurants to order, eat and determine the roles of these food items in our diet.				
<b>H2O Fitness and Fun</b>				
Come play in the water! In this expedition, we will be exploring, learning about, and playing different water sports and water fitness options. We will also be learning about basic water safety. A basic level of swimming skills and comfort is suggested for this expedition.				
<i>*Students will need to bring a swimsuit, towel and flip flop shoes.</i>				
<b>True Body Project</b>				
Just for the girls! Want to take some time to really understand who you are and how to be the best you possible? The True Body Project is for you! Learn how to understand and appreciate all things involved with being a girl.				
<b>Exploring International Foods</b>				
You will learn about a variety of international foods from local restaurant owners and chefs, and cook food alongside the professionals. At the end of the expedition, you will have the skills to cook new foods for friends and family.				
<i>*Also offered as a Wellness expedition</i>				
<b>Community Outreach</b>				
Want to make a difference in our community but don't know how to start? Join us as we reach out to the people in our community. Together, we will create a plan to work together in order to help others.				

### Guys 101

This one is just for the guys! Feeling overwhelmed? School and life sometimes get you down? Wanting to be more organized and prepared each day? How about learning stress management and relaxation techniques made just for you? Come join Guys 101 to get a jump-start on being your best self in junior high and beyond!

### Run Toward Fitness

Run Toward Fitness is designed to accommodate the fitness level of each participant and work to help each participant progress towards a higher fitness level. This expedition is designed for students at any fitness level who want to improve general fitness. Choosing the right shoe for you, nutrition, and mental and physical wellness are the focuses of this expedition, with a 2-mile run in Mariemont's South 80 Trail for as a culminating event.

### Intro to Sports Medicine

Thinking about a future in sports medicine? Come learn more about what it takes to keep athletes safe, healthy and performing at their best. In this expedition, you will also get hands-on training and practice with tasks athletic trainers and physical therapists do on a regular basis for their athletes.

*\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

## Arts Expeditions

Music. Art. Expression. Performance.

### Art Scavengers

Come join our kick off with a scavenger hunt at the Cincinnati Art Museum! Choose visual art pieces that inspire you to create your own artwork. Become familiar with the artist who created the piece(s) and the time period that inspired them. Find your inspiration!

### Theatre Works

Do you dream of a career in the theatre? Are you interested in stage drama and everything that occurs behind the scenes to make a performance possible? Do you enjoy seeing live theatre and hearing from real actors and theatre professionals? Then this is the expedition for you! Students in this session will travel to Playhouse in the Park, tour the performance area and get an insider's look at the entire theatre experience. No acting or experience necessary!

*\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

### Intro to Woodworking

Come and learn basic woodworking techniques along with safety methods in the workshop! You will learn how to create projects using the mini lathe, such as pens, pencils, bottle stoppers, magnifying glasses, gavels and mini bats. Come make something with your own two hands!

### Combined Band Performance

Do you want the opportunity to get together with other junior high musicians and collaborate? Our combined band rehearsal will do just that! Give us the chance to be bigger and stronger as a combined band and wow our audiences! (This expedition will meet twice.)

*\*Required for all band students*

### Introduction to Guitar

Are you interested in learning the basics of guitar playing? Want to explore the guitar and learn to take off in any genre? Sign up for this expedition and start strumming!

### Combined Orchestra Performance

Do you want the opportunity to get together with other junior high musicians and collaborate? Our combined orchestra rehearsal will do just that! Give us the chance to be bigger and stronger as a combined orchestra and wow our audiences! (This expedition will meet twice.)

*\*Required for all orchestra students*



**Be the Art Critic!**

Calling all artsy MJHS students! Learn how to 'read' works of art and prove your interpretations with intelligent and persuasive writing. We will travel offsite to local museums and galleries to practice these skills first hand. Explore culture and enter a state-wide art criticism writing competition.

**Architecture & Interior Design: Design Your Own Gallery**

Tour two of Cincinnati's artistic & architectural gems: The Center for Contemporary Art and the Taft Museum. Inspect how architecture & design affect and enhance the experience of viewing art. Create your own scale model of an art gallery, down to the last detail.

**The Art of Glass**

Experience science and art together while learning to work with glass as a sculpture medium. Visit Neusole Glassworks to observe and work with experts in the field. Travel to the high school to experiment with glass slumping and fusing.

**Rain Barrels: Science & Art Together**

Learn about how rain barrels are used to conserve and reuse rainwater for lawns and gardens. Brainstorm imagery for a rain barrel, choose a design and transfer it to a barrel that will be auctioned off at the Cincinnati Zoo's Annual Spring Event.

**Jazz Band**

Play an instrument and want to jam, jazz style? This expedition is open for any student who plays any instrument (in school or outside of school) & wants to play together with a mix of instruments! Come jam!

**Ceramics: Throwing on a Wheel**

Travel offsite to learn to throw a clay pot or bowl on a wheel (this is harder than it looks!). Create bowls and pots and glaze them back at MJHS. Organize a sale or auction of bowls, with proceeds going to a charitable cause (Tender Mercies or The Freestore Food Bank).

**Women's Chorus**

Our Women's Chorus Expedition will prepare you to take your voice outside of the school walls! A series of mini-concerts will prepare us to wow our audiences! *\*Required for all women's chorus students*

**Men's Chorus**

Our Men's Chorus Expedition will prepare you to take your voice outside of the school walls! A series of mini-concerts will prepare us to wow our audiences! *\*Required for all men's chorus students*

**Dancin' Machine**

Come with us as we discover the many different styles of dance! We will work up a sweat learning everything from hip-hop, jazz, tap, ballet and even salsa. Feel the rhythm and get your feet moving. No experience necessary. *\*Also offered as a Wellness expedition*

**The World's a Stage**

Join us on a journey as we learn to unlock characters and become storytellers. We'll play acting games and do improv exercises. The World's a Stage Expedition will help you discover the actor inside you that you didn't even know was there. *\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

**The Triple Threat**

Have you ever wanted to learn what it takes to become a Broadway star? Being able to sing, dance and act is what makes a triple threat on stage! In this class we will show you the basics of musical theatre. No experience needed. *\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

**Electronic Garage Band**

Interested in creating your own garage band - electronic style? Learn more about composing music by using computer programming to create your very own garage band and songs! No experience required.

**Handmade Paper Workshop & Printing With a Press**

Create your own customized handmade paper from things to be recycled. Hear from an expert and exhibiting artist in the field. Use your paper to create beautiful landscape compositions & collagraph prints.

### **A cappella**

Love "Glee"? Want to learn more about singing a cappella style? Join this expedition to learn more about your own singing style and improve your technique for singing or beat boxing. This is your chance to work on your own instrument – your voice!

### **From Page to Stage**

Do you like to act? Develop your theatre skills and talents on stage and off. This expedition will give you training in acting, improvisation, costume, movement and voice. During the first couple of weeks we will read scripts, decide on a script, try out for parts and practice. The expedition will culminate with a final performance showcasing our collaboration. *\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

## **Learning Beyond Expeditions**

Technology. College. Career. Content.

### **Innovative Blogging and Digital Journaling**

Have you ever wanted your OWN unique online writing space? Then this is the expedition for you! In this session, you will set up your own creative writing blog, work on unique writing pieces each week, and add content such as videos and images to enhance the overall blog. You will be able to use your personal blog during this expedition session and beyond.

### **Ancient Languages – Greek, Hebrew, Arabic**

Want to learn the basics of ancient Greek, Hebrew & Arabic? Curious to know how these languages have impacted world religions and cultures? Then this expedition is for you!

### **From Page to Stage**

Do you like to act? Develop your theatre skills and talents on stage and off. This expedition will give you training in acting, improvisation, costume, movement and voice. During the first couple of weeks we will read scripts, decide on a script, try out for parts and practice. The expedition will culminate with a final performance showcasing our collaboration. *\*Also offered as an Arts expedition*

### **Cinema Literature**

Do you love to read books? Do you love to watch movies? In Cinema Literature, we will read a popular/current book that has been made into a movie and then watch the movie on the big screen. We will also have a book club-type discussion about the book and movie.

### **Introduction to Public Relations**

Ever wonder how stories make it to press or TV? Wonder what it takes to cover an event? This expedition will take you through a public relations event, from interviewing, taking/collecting pictures, pitching the media and posting on social media sites and the district website. We will also take a field trip to a local TV station.

### **Learning Launched! Rocketry**

Rocketry and propulsion are used to move many objects on earth and in space. Learn how to design and build a rocket from scratch and then use math and science to determine where it will fly and land. You will leave with a self-built rocket.

### **Let's Dissect It!**

Have you ever wondered what the inside of organisms look like? In this expedition, you will learn about both the inside and outside structures of an owl pellet, a clam, a grasshopper and a perch (fish). Discover the structures and functions of these organisms while learning proper dissection procedures and techniques.

### **Bravery in History**

What does it mean to be brave? Answer this question by exploring our past! You will learn about truly brave Americans who fought to end slavery and struggled for freedom in the Civil Rights Movement. This exploration will take you on a field trip to the Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and you will get the chance to express yourself through creative writing or artwork. Come learn about brave Americans who changed our country for the better!

### **Ancient Mythology Meets the Modern World**

What do Pyramus from the city of Babylon, Romeo from the city of Verona, and Tony from "West Side Story" all have in common? Mythological stories and references are used all through literature, theatre, film and the modern world. Explore ways that characters and stories from ancient mythology have been used throughout history, even in our modern era. Then take your turn – choose an ancient myth and retell it using a modern setting.

### **Tinkerspace MJHS**

Do you like to destroy things? Do you like to create things? The MJHS Tinkerspace is a place where you can do both! Circuits, robots, fabrics, cardboard, mechanics, paint and more are involved in this new Makerspace-like expedition, designed to give you the opportunity to get your hands on cool materials and tap into your creative side. Join and create something new in the Tinkerspace MJHS Expedition!

### **College Exploration**

This is an opportunity for you to explore local colleges and post high school opportunities that colleges can offer, giving you a glimpse into college life. Tour a campus, learn about financial aid and see what college and post-secondary options can offer you!

### **Ancient Roman Mosaics**

Integrate your interests in Latin, History and Art in this expedition, resulting in fabulous tile mosaics. Learn about the rich traditions behind ancient mosaics and choose a historical event to depict. Work individually or in a small group to create original tile mosaics.

### **The World's a Stage**

Join us on a journey as we learn to unlock characters and become storytellers. We'll play acting games and do improv exercises. The World's a Stage Expedition will help you discover the actor inside you that you didn't even know was there. *\*Also offered as an Arts expedition*

### **Digging Up the Past: Learning from Artifacts**

How can artifacts show what life was like during a certain time period? How do we learn from our past? Come get your fingers dirty with old artifacts! Explore artifacts and archaeology from the ancient world and right here in Mariemont. Then create your own artifact to share in our own MJHS museum.

### **Brain Crunchers**

Join a student design team and test your creativity by participating in fun and challenging construction projects! Activities could include packaging a Pringle chip to see if it can survive a trip through the mail, building a device to catch a hardboiled egg after it is dropped, attempting to construct an invincible straw bridge, designing a racing blimp, and creating a marble roll in a shoebox. Each day will also include teasers and puzzles to build your brain power!

### **Culinary Arts: Ethnic Foods**

Want to visit an international grocery and learn how to prepare foods from around the world? Want a chance to eat incredible ethnic food that you have prepared every Friday for a month? Join the Culinary Arts Expedition.

### **Life Skills 101**

In this expedition, you will begin to explore those all-important life skills for when you are out on your own. Want to know how to open a checking and savings account? Interested in an intro to financial literacy lesson? How to sew a button and do basic mending? How to complete an application for a job, a library card, or voter registration? An overview of personal safety and self-defense? Come learn life skills!

**The Triple Threat**

Have you ever wanted to learn what it takes to become a Broadway star? Being able to sing, dance and act is what makes a triple threat on stage! In this class we will show you the basics of musical theatre. No experience needed.

*\*Also offered as an Arts expedition*

**The Amazing Race and Survivor Challenge**

Students will use GPS devices to create and complete challenges. Students with or without geocaching experience are welcome. Be ready to test your navigational abilities!

**Theatre Works**

Do you dream of a career in the theatre? Are you interested in stage drama and everything that occurs behind the scenes to make a performance possible? Do you enjoy seeing live theatre and hearing from real actors and theatre professionals? Then this is the expedition for you! Students in this session will travel to Playhouse in the Park, tour the performance area and get an insider's look at the entire theatre experience. No acting or experience necessary!

*\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

**Chopped Cooking Challenge**

You will be challenged to become a 'Chopped Chef.' You will have to learn to cook with a random combination of healthy yet delicious ingredients. You will show off your skills at the end of the expedition to a panel of food taste testers. You will be judged on taste, creativity and presentation.

*\*Also offered as a Wellness expedition*

**Exploring International Foods**

You will learn about a variety of international foods from local restaurant owners and chefs, and cook food alongside the professionals. At the end of the expedition, you will have the skills to cook new foods for friends and family.

*\*Also offered as a Wellness expedition*

**Intro to Coding**

Love computers? Want to learn more about writing code – the language of computers? Then this expedition is for you! Come learn how to write code and learn more about computer programing. No technology experience required!

**Intro to Sports Medicine**

Thinking about a future in sports medicine? Come learn more about what it takes to keep athletes safe, healthy and performing at their best. In this expedition, you will also get hands-on training and practice with tasks athletic trainers and physical therapists do on a regular basis for their athletes.

*\*Also offered as a Learning Beyond expedition*

**Intro to Aviation**

Explore aspects of aviation including how planes fly and what a pilot does. Aviation includes engineers, business people, people managers, travel agents, even homebuilders who build and fly their own airplane. We will briefly look at required education and possible careers as well.



